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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 230 and clause (*f*) of question No. 231.

(*c*) The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Cocanada.

(*d*) None. The Government consider that the action of the Deputy Superintendent of Police was justified.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Having regard to the reply which the hon. the Home Member gave yesterday in connexion with the debate on the police cut, do the Government still think that no action is necessary ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"As I said yesterday, a pamphlet has been placed in my hands and I shall institute inquiries."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Having regard to the promise made by the hon. the Home Member that he will further pursue the enquiry and find out the facts, may I ask whether the opinion of the Government that the action of the Superintendent of Police was justified, will be revised."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"It will be revised, if necessary, after the enquiry is made."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"May I know whether the Government will suspend their judgment on the matter, till they have enquired into the matter ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Not necessarily; from the information we have at present, we think that no action against the officer is necessary."

Alleged lathi charge on a picnic party at Peddapuram.

* 184-B *Q*.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the circumstances under which a lathi charge was made by the police on the guests gathered at Vanasantharpana or garden party arranged by Mr. V. R. Gajapat Varma in the garden of Mr. B. Narayanamurti at Peddapuram on the 21st of December 1930 ;

(*b*) whether any prohibitory order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, or under any other law was in force at the time when the gathering was sought to be dispersed by the lathi charge ;

(*c*) whether any Magistrate was present and ordered the gathering to be dispersed as being an unlawful assembly ;

(*d*) whether any other officer gave them an order of dispersal and what was the time allowed for dispersing ;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the garden in which the party was held was fenced by prickly-pear and other thorny bushes, permitting only one way of escape ;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the one way of escape was blocked by the police lorry ;

(*g*) what was the time taken by the police in delivering the lathi charge for dispersing the gathering ;

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(*h*) how many persons were injured as a result of the charge and whether the following persons were amongst them :—

Mr. K. V. R. Swami, Barrister-at-Law, of Rajahmundry, ex-M.L.C.,
Mr. Pyda Venkatanarayana, Zamindar,
Dr. U. Gopalakrishnayya of Cocanada,
Srimathi P. Kamesvaramma, B.A. ;

(*i*) the nature of the injuries received by the above-mentioned persons ; and

(*j*) whether the cooks and motor-drivers were also beaten with the lathis by the police ?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 230.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Cocanada. He allowed the assembly about five minutes in which to disperse.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) No ; there are many exits from the garden.

(*g*) The Government have no information.

(*h*) *to* (*j*) The Government have no information as to the exact number of persons injured or the nature of individual injuries. If the gentlemen mentioned received any hurt, it must have been in the course of the dispersal of the unlawful assembly.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the answer to this question also will be revised, after the proposed enquiry is completed ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not know what points are dealt with in the pamphlet that was placed in my hands ; so I am not able to give an answer to this question."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" It is stated in the answer that 'if the gentlemen mentioned received any hurt, it must have been in the course of the dispersal of the unlawful assembly'. The Government are prejudging the issues. The result of the proposed enquiry may show that the assembly was not an unlawful one. "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am not prejudging the issues. The Government came to this conclusion on the reports they had before them. I have no time to go through the pamphlet that was placed in my hands. I shall have the matter considered. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the Government will revise their opinions after the proposed enquiry ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" On the points contained in the pamphlet."